UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION II

290 Broadway New York, New York 10007-1866

NOTICE OF DRAFT UIC PERMIT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON DRAFT UIC PERMIT TO INJECT FLUIDS INTO AN INJECTION WELL

Date: January 26, 2006

Public Notice No. 06-11

Permit No. NYU119501

Columbia Natural Resources LLC, P.O. Box 6070, Charleston, WV 25362, has applied to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. 300f <u>et seq.</u>(the Act), for a new Underground Injection Control (UIC) permit to inject fluids into its Class II injection well – Quill 762-1 at 42°57′30″ north latitude and -76°42′30″ west longitude, RD#3 Auburn, New York 13021, to replace the existing permit which expired on May 7, 2005. The operating, monitoring and reporting requirements in the draft permit are identical to those found in the existing permit except as noted below. The following monitoring requirements have been modified in the draft permit:

- 1. The monitoring requirement for sodium has been eliminated to be consistent with other permits and as a result of EPA determining that the other existing monitoring parameters are sufficient for adequately characterizing the injectate quality.
- 2. The existing permit does not specify permitted ranges for conductivity and pH. The draft permit establishes ranges for both parameters.

Injection of the fluids occurs into the Queenston Sandstone at a depth of approximately 1,470 feet.

This notice is being given to inform the public that EPA has prepared a draft Permit No. NYU119501. This draft permit contains standards, prohibitions and other conditions necessary to carry out the provisions of the Act. If, after the conclusion of the proceedings summarized below, the Director of the Division of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance, Region II, EPA makes a final decision to issue the permit, the permittee will be required to comply with all the conditions in that permit.

The draft permit prepared by EPA is based on the administrative record. The administrative record is on file on the 20th floor, EPA, Region II at the address below and may be inspected and copied at a charge of \$.15 per copy sheet at any time between 8:30 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., Monday through Friday.

A copy of the draft permit and other available information may be obtained by writing to the address below.

Interested persons may submit comments on the draft permit to the Chief, Water Compliance Branch at the below address no later than February 25, 2006. All persons, including the permittee, who believe that preparation of a draft permit is not appropriate have an obligation to raise all reasonably ascertainable issues and submit all reasonably available arguments and factual grounds supporting their position, including all support material by the close of the public comment period. All supporting material must be submitted unless it is already included in the administrative record. If the Division of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance Director finds that comments timely submitted appear to raise substantial new questions, he or she may reopen the public comment period and schedule a public hearing.

The permittee and any other person who submits timely written or oral comments or requests notice of the final permit decision shall receive notice of the Division Director's final decision. Within 30 days of service of such notice, any interested person may petition the Administrator to review any condition of the permit decision.

Written comments on the draft permit must be received by February 25, 2006. Please address comments to:

Doughlas McKenna, Chief Water Compliance Branch U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 20th Floor 290 Broadway New York, NY 10007-1866 (212) 637-3766

Dore LaPosta
Director
Division of Enforcement Compliance and Assistance